

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ANDY ANDERSON

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 7, 2009

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Madam Speaker, Andy Anderson's passing is a tragic loss for Washington state, Whatcom County and for me personally. My thoughts and prayers are with Andy's loved ones during this difficult time.

Andy's commitment to public service is legendary and his contributions to Washington state have been many and varied.

While serving as District Manager for Congressman Al Swift, Andy was instrumental in creating the PACE (now NEXUS) lane for frequent travelers between the United States and Canada. Andy's efforts to expand trade and reduce wait times helped thousands of families and businesses on both sides of the border.

After I was elected to Congress in 2000, I asked Andy to come out of retirement to join my team. For 3 years, he served as director of my Bellingham office, representing me in Whatcom County.

I am honored to have worked with Andy Anderson. He was a true friend and a tireless advocate for my constituents. He was always available to answer a question, investigate and solve a problem and look for new ways to make life a little easier for the people he served.

Andy will be missed, but his contributions to our community, our State and our country will be felt for many decades to come.

HONORING THE 2008 MYRTLE BEACH HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 7, 2009

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, please permit me to take this opportunity to extend my personal congratulations to the 2008 Myrtle Beach High School Football Team. By beating the Chester Cyclones in "Death Valley" at Clemson University, the "Seahawks" led by Coach Scott Earley returned the Class AAA State Football Championship Trophy to Myrtle Beach after a hiatus of 24 years. This outstanding victory exemplifies the drive, ambition and teamwork of these young men.

CONGRATULATING MR. CLARENCE E. FAULK, JR., ON THE OCCA- SION OF HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 7, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor Mr. Clarence E. Faulk, Jr., on the occasion of his 100th birthday.

Mr. Faulk was born on January 9, 1909 in West Monroe, LA to Clarence E. Faulk, Sr. and Josephine McClendon Faulk.

He married Louise Benson Page on July 8, 1931 and from this union three children were born. In addition, Mr. Faulk is the proud and loving grandfather of 10 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Mr. Faulk was the publisher of the Ruston Daily Leader from 1931 to 1962, the owner of radio station KRUS from 1947 to 1968, and the owner of Westside Self Storage from 1980 to present.

Moreover, Mr. Faulk and his late beloved wife owned 10 rental houses, one 16-unit apartment house, and eight commercial buildings in Ruston, LA.

Mr. Faulk is a friend to many, and is deemed a gracious and hardworking person to all who have had the privilege of making his acquaintance.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Clarence Faulk on this truly significant birthday.

RULES OF THE HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 6, 2009

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, let me congratulate you for your reelection as Speaker of the House. It is an honor that you have served with great distinction and verve. I look forward to more of your continued leadership in the 111th Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 5, Adopting the rules for the One Hundred Eleventh Congress. The House Rules Package provides commonsense reforms that will enable Congress to work more efficiently for America.

In the 110th Congress, Democrats put forth critical measures to restore integrity and accountability to the House. These reforms were the most sweeping ethics and lobbying reforms since Watergate and has changed the way Congress does business in Washington. The reforms adopted by the 110th Congress included banning gifts from lobbyists, prohibiting the use of corporate jets, mandating ethics training for all House employees, establishing a new, independent Office of Congressional Ethics, and ensuring transparency for budget earmarks by requiring the full disclosure of earmarks in all bills and conference reports.

The Rule Package for the 111th Congress builds upon these reforms to further strengthen the integrity of Congress. Key provisions include closing the loophole regarding "lame-duck" Members negotiating post-Congressional employment, codifying additional earmark reforms adopted in mid-term in the 110th Congress, continuing the Office of Congressional Ethics, maintaining strong PAYGO rules, and improving Congress's effectiveness by removing an abusive practice where popular measures are killed through unrelated, "gotcha" amendments on motions to recommit.

On this last point, noted Congressional scholar Norm Ornstein pointed out in the Roll Call, August 13, 2007, "Using 'promptly' . . .

is a subterfuge, a way to kill bills, and reflects a desire not to legislate but embarrass vulnerable majority Members through a "gotcha" process. The Rules Package protects the minority and still preserves its ability to recommit. Specifically, the minority can offer a motion to recommit "forthwith," where the GOP amendment is immediately voted upon and, if adopted, is added to the bill. Additionally, the minority can offer a straight motion to recommit the bill to committee (in which case the vote occurs on the merits of the bill itself).

Mr. Speaker, the Rules Package removes term limits for Committee Chairmen from House Rules. Instead, each party should determine its own rules on the tenure of Committee Chairs and/or Ranking Members—and they should be reflected in Democratic Caucus Rules and Republican Conference Rules. In practice, term limits have resulted in the creation of a "pay-to-play" system, where the chief criterion for being selected as a new Chair has in many instances been a Member's fundraising prowess. This had the effect of focusing upon fundraising and undermining the integrity of Congress and the legislative process.

Lastly, I am pleased that the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, and the House Democracy Assistance Commission will be continued. These entities have done tremendous work.

I urge my colleagues to support the Rules Package. I believe this package restores integrity and accountability.

RECOGNIZING RICHARD RIEDEL OF SPRING HILL, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 7, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Riedel of Hernando County, Florida. Richard will do something later this year that all of us strive to do, but that very few of us will ever accomplish, celebrate his 100th birthday.

Richard was born February 1, 1909 in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. Richard's favorite childhood memories include receiving his first bicycle and robbing his sisters' piggy banks to buy penny candy.

During his youth, Richard attended Sturbridge Public and Vocational School, and then went on to serve as a sergeant in the United States Air Force. Eventually moving to Florida, Richard started working at Linen Company in St. Petersburg, Florida, eventually working his way up from a driver to the vice president of the company, an accomplishment of which he is very proud.

Throughout his life, Richard married twice, but had no children. His first wife Lucille passed away in 1981 and his second wife Ann passed away in 2006. He has fond memories of sailing into New York harbor and seeing the Statue of Liberty and the tug's radio playing "Sentimental Journey."

Richard came to Hernando County in 1984 looking for a retirement community where he could keep his dog. Today he enjoys living in the Timber Pines community where he is far away from the congestion of Pinellas County.